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## REVIEWS

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*Studies in the American Race Problem.* By ALFRED HOLT STONE, Dunleith. With an Introduction and Three Papers by WALTER F. WILCOX. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1908. Pp. xvi+555.

For a number of years Mr. Stone has been pursuing a thorough and comprehensive study of race relations in America. Those interested in the scientific determination of the race problems in the United States have been looking anxiously for the final results of Mr. Stone's investigations. As a preliminary survey of the subjects he offers this volume to the public, "which in the main," as he says, "are by-products of investigations in a broader field." Nearly all of the material presented in the book has already had a partial hearing before the public. The first and second papers, on "Race-Problem Contrasts and Parallels" and "Foundations of Our Differences," respectively, are consolidations of three lectures, one given at Cornell University in 1905, and two at the University of Michigan in 1906. The paper on "The Negro in the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta" was read at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association at Washington in 1901. "A Plantation Experiment" appeared in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, February, 1905. "The Economic Future of the American Negro" was read at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association at Baltimore in 1905. "Race Friction" was read at the second annual meeting of the American Sociological Society at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1907. "The Mulatto Factor in the Race Problem" appeared in the *Atlantic* in May, 1903. The remaining two papers by Mr. Stone on "Mr. Roosevelt, the South, and the Negro," and "The Negro in Politics," are new to the public. The three papers by Walter F. Wilcox, "Negro Criminality," "Census Statistics of the Negro," and "The Probable Increase of the Negro Race in the United States," have appeared before. The first was an address before the American Social Science Association at Saratoga in 1899, the second appeared in the *Yale Review* in November, 1904, and the last is the substance of a lecture given at Harvard University in April, 1905, which was published in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* in the following August.

Mr. Stone has performed a great public service in collecting these papers and publishing them, with additions, in book form, thus seeking a larger audience of the American public. For, with due respect to some other valuable publications on the same subject, the book as it appears represents the most valuable contributions yet appearing on the race problem in the United States.

The author's earnestness and fairness in seeking and presenting the truth without fear or favor is unmistakable. He discusses the question on broad, humanitarian lines without ignoring national and sectional interests. He frankly states, "I am not an extremist, and I long ago made up my mind to keep faith with myself in this, that I would not utter one word upon this perplexing question of which my conscience did not approve as the prompting of a desire to speak the truth for the truth's sake." No one can read the book without being convinced that Mr. Stone has followed his text closely. Neither is he dogmatic in his utterances seeking to impose his opinions upon others, nor does he essay to solve the problem and furnish a formula for future action. General enlightenment of condition and a formal agreement on fundamental propositions must precede any basis for united action.

The chapter on "Mr. Roosevelt, the South, and the Negro" is based on the Booker Washington dinner, the appointment of Crum, and the closing of the Indianola Post-Office. The results of these three events on the negro, on the South, and on the race problem are considered. While this is a remarkable chapter, it is less calculated than others in the book to assist in a settlement of the problem. While Mr. Stone does not impugn President Roosevelt's motives, the chapter amounts to a scathing criticism on the results of his actions and his policy with the South. To make the chapter complete it should have included a discussion of the Brownsville incident.

Mr. Stone asks for the toleration of the North by the South, and the South by the North. He assumes:

Within the sphere of her own peculiar environment any position assumed by the South as a development of her racial difficulties cannot be successfully attacked or criticized from without. On the other hand, the world without is not to be dictated to and should not be indiscriminately criticized by the South in matters which are no proper concern of the southern people. If any man outside the South see fit to do those things which in the South are by public opinion not permitted to be done, he is not to be criticized for his acts, the South cannot arrogate to herself a

censorship of the opinions and tastes which govern the social intercourse of people beyond her jurisdiction. On this ground her criticism of Mr. Roosevelt for violating a social canon which she has enacted for the conduct of the relations of her own people will not be justified by the public opinion of the world or the country at large.

How far this position is justified is not here to be considered, except to say it gives evidence of Mr. Stone's catholic spirit. It is a plea that each locality should have a right to determine its own social status, which it practically does, in fact.

The chapter on "The Negro in Politics" is a careful analysis of the actual political conditions of the negro in the South. The final plea of the author is to leave the political life of the negro with the people of the South, both black and white, where it belongs. "What the negro needs just now is a political 'rest cure.' His daily litany should include a prayer to be let alone."

The whole book impresses the reader of the manifold difficulties of the race problem, and gives a clear statement of the difficulties without giving any formulas for their solution. The inference is that intelligence, study, toleration, and time are the elements of their solution; that economically, socially, and politically the negro is in a bad way, with an unpromising future, judged from the standards set by his optimistic friends, and that owing to his ignorance, superstition, indolence, childish nature, and racial characteristics, he is his own worst enemy, and that justice and patience must be exercised toward him by the North and South. And, moreover, that the people of the South are best situated to understand the negro and his problem, and can and will do more for him in a practical way, than theorists who live at a distance. It is a national burden which the whole nation must sympathetically bear, but the people of the South represent the direct remedial agent.

F. W. BLACKMAR

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*Russia's Message: The True World Import of the Revolution.*

By WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING. Illustrated. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1908. Pp. xviii+476.

In the book before us the author has undertaken to make a plain statement of the present Russian situation, "omitting no feature of first importance and relating all together as a single whole" (Preface, p. ix). He writes not so much with a view to suggesting